



Hope for Orphans-Congo Good News Letter

January 2018



CHRISTMAS IN CONGO



We decided that it would be nice to be with the children over Christmas. Unlike Canada, Congo only has two seasons... the dry season and the rainy season. We knew that December and January fell during the rainy season but we still choose to go for Christmas. There were some obstacles to overcome, namely the water and the mud. As motorbikes were the only vehicles that could make the trip, Director Dan Maki, braved the back of a motorbike to be with the children for Christmas. Sacrifices are easy when you love the people that you are making the sacrifices for.



CHRISTMAS WITH THE CHILDREN IN KIKAMATA 2017

A church youth group in Canada raised money for a special Christmas meal and to purchase twenty fruit trees to plant!



The children enjoyed the gifts brought to them all the way from Canada, especially, the toys, the sunglasses and dress shirts they had requested! Most of all they enjoyed having Dan visit them. They love putting on skits and performed the Christmas Story for all to enjoy.

The children are getting older and are much healthier now than when they arrived. Most of them are doing well in school. For a few, school is very difficult, so other options, such as trade schools, apprenticeships, etc, are being looked into. Our goal is to equip them to be contributing citizens.



REAPING THE BENEFITS

Last year, it was determined that the area around the orphanage was safe enough for the cows to be moved from Masisi (40 kms away) to Kikamata. Now the children are able to enjoy fresh milk a couple times a week. The goats and rabbits are multiplying and providing food, as are the gardens! The grinder, which the children operate is a blessing to the ladies in the area and the orphanage. It provides them with training, flour and generates good will among the people.



MORE ORPHANS HELPED

In addition to the 40 children who live in the orphanage in Kikamata, the school fees of 85 other orphans living in Goma,



Bulengo (pygmy village), Minova and Nabidio are being paid.

MORE CONTACTS MADE

During this trip, many more contacts were made with other orphanages, schools, churches, and even the UN. One orphanage we visited had very little food. The sole supporter was very sick and unable to work to provide for the 24 children. These orphans were left behind when the refugee camp closed. Most of them were sick and all of them malnourished.

We sent out a plea through Facebook and we were able to provide them with food for a month, clothes, and a few toys for Christmas! It was an exciting time for them and us.

Please visit the website for more pictures and videos.



A Christmas miracle came to these children!

THANK YOU! for being a big part of these children's lives. We are *"working together – making a difference!"*

We explained to the children that Hope for Orphans-Congo) is investing in them, so they can in turn invest in others. Please keep in contact with us through Facebook and emails. Periodically, we send out emails, if you would like to be added to our email list, please send an email to: HopeForOrphans-Congo@hotmail.com